

million people vote in Iraq, because I believe—and I hope you do too—that the concept of liberty is universal; that it's not just a concept for Americans or Methodists, it's a concept that rests in the soul of everybody. That's what we believe in America. That's the basis of our founding.

And so the idea of our enemy becoming a friend shouldn't be a surprise. The lessons of World War II and the aftermath should be lessons applied today in helping us chart our path to victory in the war against these terrorists. Someday, an elected leader of Iraq, a free Iraq in the heart of the Middle East, will be sitting down with an American President talking about keeping the peace. And generations of children will be better off for it.

Thanks for helping Judy Baar. God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:27 p.m. at the Drake Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to Andy McKenna, chairman, Illinois Republican Party; Mayor Richard M. Daley of Chicago, IL; former President Saddam Hussein and Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki of Iraq; Gen. George W. Casey, Jr., USA, commanding general, Multi-National Force—Iraq; Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi of Japan; and Chairman Kim Jong Il of North Korea.

### Remarks at Cabot Microelectronics Corporation in Aurora, Illinois

July 7, 2006

**The President.** Listen, thanks for the tour. The Speaker and I really enjoyed coming. Bill, appreciate you.

**William P. Noglows.** It's an honor.

**The President.** It is an honor to be here.

This is an innovative company that is a sign of the times that are coming. This is a company that strives upon our country's greatest asset, which happens to be the brainpower of our citizens. And what's amazing as you walk through the labs and meet the people working here, you say, "What's your degree in?" Let me just say, there wasn't a lot of history majors—physicists, chemists, Ph.D.s, people with advanced degrees. It is clear that in order for this country of ours to be competitive in the future, we've got to understand the nature of the jobs of the future,

and these jobs are going to require people who have got math and science skills.

And so one way to make sure this country is competitive is to enhance math and science in early grades and encourage people to take math and science in the later years. And there's all kinds of ways to do that. One is to encourage Advanced Placement programs in our Nation's schools and help train 30,000 teachers in Advanced Placement. Another is to get people from institutions like this to go into our middle schools and high schools and say, "It's okay to be a scientist," you know, "Math and science will be important for your future." In other words, try to inspire people. We call that an adjunct professor program.

We've got a role at the Federal Government to make sure that we're research oriented in a technology-driven economy, and that is to spend your money on basic research, so that, for example, nanotechnology is a really important part of the economy—an important growing part of the economy. And I believe and the Speaker believes—as a matter of fact the House of Representatives believes that it makes sense to double the basic research budget of our Federal Government to help companies like this stay on the leading edge of change.

And so we're here because we want our fellow citizens to understand that we've got some really innovative people here in our country, and that in order for us to be competitive in the future, we've got to emphasize math and science and research and technology.

And so I want to congratulate you for running a good company. I want to thank the people who work here for making you look good. And I thank the Speaker for getting a bill out of the House that funds the American Competitiveness Initiative that I sent up to Congress. The Speaker did good work on that. I call upon the Senate to get it done. This will be a commitment to our Nation's future, so that people won't have to fear the future, because we intend to shape the future.

Anyway, thanks for letting us come by. Proud to be here. You're a great company. Thanks for the good work you do. God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:12 p.m. In his remarks, he referred to William P. Noglows, chairman and chief executive officer, Cabot Microelectronics Corp. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

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### **Digest of Other White House Announcements**

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The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

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#### **July 1**

In the morning, at Camp David, MD, the President had an intelligence briefing.

The President declared a major disaster in New York and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and flooding beginning June 26 and continuing.

#### **July 2**

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush returned to Washington, DC.

The President declared a major disaster in Maryland and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms, flooding, and tornadoes beginning on June 22 and continuing.

The President declared a major disaster in Ohio and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms, tornadoes, straight line winds, and flooding during the period of June 21–23.

#### **July 3**

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he met with Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. Then, in the Roosevelt Room, he participated in a signing ceremony for H.R. 5403, the Safe and Timely Interstate Placement of Foster Children Act of 2006.

The President announced his intention to appoint Kirk Van Tine as a member of the Presidential Emergency Board No. 239 and,

upon appointment, to designate him as Chair.

The President announced his intention to appoint Roger P. Nober and Robert E. Peterson as members of the Presidential Emergency Board No. 239.

#### **July 4**

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he traveled to Fort Bragg, NC, where, upon arrival, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Benny Smith. He then toured U.S. Army Special Operations Command.

Later, at the 3d Brigade, 82d Airborne Division Dining Facility, the President had lunch with military personnel and their families.

In the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC. While en route aboard Air Force One, he participated in an interview with Stars and Stripes newspaper.

During the day, the President met with Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice to discuss the situation in North Korea.

In the evening, in the Residence, the President attended a dinner party to celebrate the Fourth of July and his birthday.

#### **July 5**

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing and met with the National Security Council. Later, he met with members of the Commission for Assistance to a Free Cuba, who presented him with their official report. He then traveled to Alexandria, VA.

Later in the morning, the President returned to Washington, DC.

In the afternoon, the President had lunch with Vice President Dick Cheney.

The President announced the appointment of Helgard C. Walker as a member of the District of Columbia Judicial Nomination Commission.

The President declared a major disaster in Delaware and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and flooding beginning on June 23 and continuing.